





















The MSc BUDD was created in 1993 in the Development Planning Unit to educate development practitioner to socially responsive practices to challenge urban poverties, informalities and inequalities. Benefitting from the visionary intellectual legacy of Otto Koenigsberger and scholars as John Turner, Cho Padamsee, Geoffrey Payne, Nabeel Hamdi, Pat Wakely and Babar Mumtaz, the course developed in its essential dimensions of participatory and strategic design.

Since its creation more than **500 practitioners** were trained and now are working all over the world promoting a cultural shift in the production of habitat. In line with the historical legacy and the ethical mandate of an **architecture of engagement** the course experiments studio methodology and learning by doing, in a **transdisciplinary setting**. Acknowledging the limits of the traditional notion of urban design the course develop a **new kind of designer** to emerge, with a renewed **social commitment** and a more critical engagement in the Global South.

Design interventions are nurtured by critical theories and find a testing ground in the **community-based experiences** of the field trips developed in strict collaborations and in **co-production of knowledge** with partner organisations around the word (International Federation of Slum Dwellers, Asian Coalition of Housing Rights, Community Architect Network).

BUILDING AND URBAN DESIGN MANDATE:

MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF URBAN DESIGN-RESEARCH EDUCATION

MSc BUILDING & URBAN DESIGN IN DEVELOPMENT, THE BARTLETT DPU, LONDON

Camillo Boano





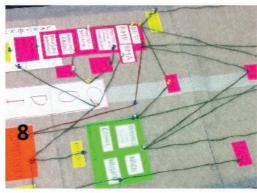




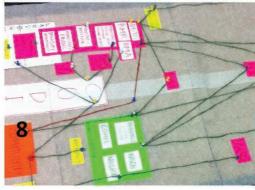


















For over twenty years, the MSc BUDD has embraced the task of developing and understanding urban design as an interdisciplinary, spatially complex and hybrid practice that engages with the political and social urban realities. To fulfil this type of engagement with the urban, the BUDD course engage with a recalibration process of how we imagine, plan and make cities. The BUDD course explore new possibilities of using professional capacities differently, taking on different design approaches and practices to respond effectively and responsibly in the context of rapid urbanisation, increase density, constrained resources and spatial injustices.

The MSc focus on resisting un-critical engagements with design practice, escaping a narrow and static solutionfocused and profit-based vision of architectural and urban design, and dealing with precariousness and informality as constituent parts of the urban reality where design is reconfigured as strategic intervention at the urban and the architectural scale.

The programme develop a political economy perspective of space, a comprehension of the unique needs, abilities, aspirations, and forms of resistance of urban dwellers, the ability to respond with strategically coordinated proposals to leverage local abilities to meet local needs and to critically engage with the practice of urban design, architecture and urbanism in developmental processes.

2. FOSTER THE SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE ROLE OF BUILT **ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONALS BY STIMULATING** SOCIAL MODES OF PRACTICE BEFORE SPECULATIVE **ECONOMIC PROFITABILITY** 

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1.2.5 DPU-ACHR Interniship

3. Poor communities,

Phnom Penh, 2014

4. River and railway

6. Participatory activity

7. Conflict over land in

8. Actor diagram, Studio

communities in

and mapping

Phnom Penh

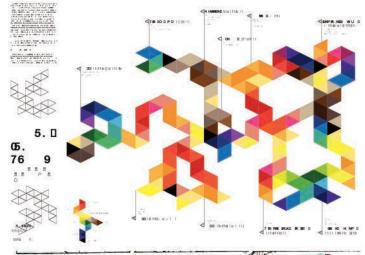
9. Dharavi, 2010

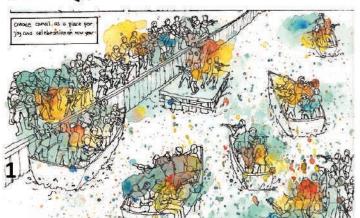
11. Summerlab,

Medellin 2014

10. Model, Studio

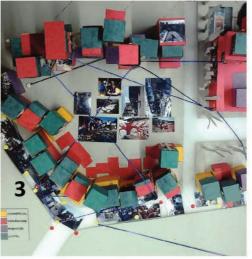
Cambodia

























#### THE STUDIO ENVIRONMENT AND IN THE FIELD ACTION RESEARCH: AN INNOVATIVE MODEL OF COPRODUCTION OF KNOWLEDGE.

The MSc BUDD is taking up the contemporary urban challenges by embracing a different mode of design research: active, relational, collective, embedded, reflexive and transdisciplinary, which requires a different mode of thinking, researching and practicing.

Active refers to a practice that is engaged with material conditions and social and political complexities. Such practices are also necessarily relational - recognising that knowledge production and learning are defined within relative positions, and in conversation with existing discourses, material processes and the socially constructed structures of actors, resources and meanings.

The workisthen **collective** - whereby knowledge production is understood as a common endeavour pursued by networks of individuals, community organisations, NGOs, and institutions that share the value of both aesthetics and ethics alike.

Research and design research are also embedded - where learning and knowledge production are seen as processes integrally related to the practices and lived experiences of people in specific settings and locations. The research also has to be reflexive – acknowledging the contexts in which it is produced and challenging hegemonic outcomes.

Finally, transdisciplinarity becomes fundamental – where complexity is recognised and celebrated through the promotion of critical engagement with multiple partial perspectives of multiple voices and specific disciplinary construct.

6. SHARE KNOWLEDGE, PROMOTE DISCUSSION, REFLECTION AND AWARENESS, AND COLLABORATE IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE 'SOCIAL PRODUCTION OF HABITAT'

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1. Individual Design

portfolio 2015 2. Design

interventions for deprived areas in

3. Models, Studio

4. Group-working

6. Presentations of first exrecise on Bangkok Urbanism,

7. Mapping during

8. Models, Studio

5. Collective

tiutorials

2014

fieldtrip

London



























## A CONTINUOUS AND LONG TERM PARTNERSHIP: A WORLDWIDE PLATFORM

The innovative design thinking of the MSc BUDD is employed beyond the classroom environment thanks to the active engagement with urban practitioners, design networks and collectives globally as well as the contribution of the BUDD alumni. Partner organisations around the world play a fundamental role in shaping the pedagogical dimension of the course, contributing to frame a continuous collaborative platform with communities.

Such action calls for a deeper reorientation between politics and aesthetics, confronting three challenges. The first one is related to the need to play against the non-critical engagement with the urban environment. The second challenge is to get away from a certain narrow vision of urban design. The above leads to a third challenge related to dealing with informality as a constituent material of the everyday urban.

The course has recently introduced a summer **itinerant workshop** called DpuSummerLab in Rome, Zurich, Medellin, Santiago, Beirut and London involving more than 200 participants. In 2012, the MSc BUDD took a leading role in launching a DPU/ACHR Junior Professionals Programme with the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights and the Community Architects Network (CAN), where several DPU Alumni were awarded **paid internships** to work in Southeast Asian countries experiencing in **community-driven development**.

7. PROMOTE THE FACILITATION OF TRANS-NATIONAL DIALOGUES AND LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIPS WITH AND WITHIN THE LESS AFFLUENT COUNTRIES

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